granted when death occurs (a) enemy action, international war or Border skirmishes and (b) action against militants, terrorist, and extremists.

An *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 5 lakh is given as assistance to the families of J&K Plice personnel killed in terrorist attacks (Rs. 2 lakhs is paid by the State Government and reimbursed by SRE (Security Related Expenditure) while Rs. 3 lakh is paid directly by MHA).

Deadlock in Talks with Hurriyat Leaders

2287. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks between the Centre and Hurriyat leaders on Kashmir have ended into a deadlock after Centres rejection of Hurriyat's proposals to have talks direct with the Prime Minister and a dialogue with Pakistan before the third round of talks with the Central Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Steps to prevent floods

2288. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to lack of pre-emptive measures the flood situation in North-East and Bihar has worsened;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to rescue the marooned people; and

(d) the details of the long-term measures taken to prevent floods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Measures for flood control are primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Central Government assists the efforts of the States by providing financial support, wherever